

The Message Notes

Message: *The Awakening*

Sunday: January 3, 2021



Text: Revelation 3:1 NLT. “Write this letter to the **angel** of the church in **Sardis**. This is the **message** from the one who has the **sevenfold** Spirit of God and the **seven stars**: “I know all the things you do (works), and that you have a reputation (a name) for being **alive**-but you are **dead**. **2. Wake up! Strengthen** what **little remains**, for even what is left is almost **dead**. I find that your actions (your works) do not meet the requirements of my God. **3.** Go back to what you **heard** and **believed** at **first**; hold to it firmly. **Repent** and turn to me again. If you don’t **wake up**, I will come to you suddenly, as **unexpected** as a **thief**.

4. “Yet there are some in the church in Sardis who have not soiled their clothes with evil. They will walk with me in white, for they are worthy. **5.** All who are victorious will be clothed in white. I will never erase their names from the **Book of Life**, but I will announce before my Father and his angels that they are mine. **6.** Anyone with ears to hear must listen to the **Spirit** and understand what he is saying to the churches.

Introduction:

On Watch Night, we discussed having **spiritual discernment** - the ability to distinguish from truth and error and to see beyond our natural senses and mind, so we can know the signs of the times and know what we ought to do.

“20 years of ministry has had me to **pause** and **ponder** as your Pastor what is my spiritual condition and the spiritual condition of the church in the eyes of God, not my own.” **Reference:** Revelation 1:20

v1a. “Write this letter to the **angel** of the church in **Sardis**. This is the **message** from the one who has the **sevenfold** Spirit of God and the **seven stars**.”

- Angel (Pastor) receives the letter from Christ
- Pastor must be judged first because He is upheld by Christ or let go by Christ (stars in his hands)
- The spiritual condition of the church is based on the Pastor’s relationship with Christ

Points to the text:

PT1. The _____: v1c. “I know all the things you do, and that you have a reputation for being **alive** - but you are **dead**.”

Christ is looking at our works (**alive-faith** or **dead-flesh**)

2 Timothy 3:5 NLT. They will **act religious**, but they will **reject** the **power** that could make them **godly**. Stay away from people like that!

“There is a form of godliness, but God does not fill it with His Spirit to give it life because of our lack of passion for God.” Reference: Psalms 119:174

PT2. The _____: **v2. Wake up! Strengthen** what **little remains**, for even what is left is almost **dead**. I find that your actions **do not meet the requirements** of my God. Reference: 2 Timothy 1:6

v3. Go back to what you **heard** and **believed** at first; **hold** to it **firmly**. **Repent** and turn to **me again**. If you don't **wake up**, I will come to you suddenly, as **unexpected** as a **thief**. Romans 13:11

- **Repent:** Go back to what you heard and believed at first
- **Guard:** hold firmly to it
- **Vigilance:** Repent and turn to me again. If you don't wake up, I will come to you suddenly, as unexpected as a thief

PT3. The _____: **v4.** “Yet there are some in the church in Sardis who have not **soiled** their **clothes** with **evil**. They will **walk** with me in **white**, for they are **worthy**. **v5.** All who are **victorious** will be **clothed** in **white**. I will never erase their names from the **Book of Life**, but I will **announce** before my Father and his angels that they are mine.

Victors:

- Will be clothed in white
- Names will not be erased from the Book of Life
- Acknowledged by Christ before God

Matthew 10:32 NLT. “Everyone who acknowledges me publicly here on earth, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. **33.** But everyone who denies me here on earth, I will also deny before my Father in heaven.

Takeaway: PK's Wake-up?

1. **Courage** over **cowardliness** – “Preach the Word.”

“Don't be afraid of preaching my Word and people rejecting you and the church.” Reference: 2 Timothy 4:2-3

2. **Revelation** over **relevance** – “Back to the basics”.

“Don't build a **consumer** church but a **Christ-centered** church.”

3. **Calling** over **commonness** – “Remain consecrated”

“Don't become so common among the people that God's Word is no longer revered through you.” Reference: 1 Thessalonians 2:13